

Ajanta Caves

Ajanta Caves are situated in **Aurangabad in Maharashtra**. These caves feature exclusively the **Buddhist architecture**. Caves were constructed as **Viharas (Living place)** and **Chaitya (Prayer Hall)**.



Mural and Fresco painting were used for the decoration of Ajanta caves. Both **Sung and Gupta** dynasty worked for the painting in Ajanta caves.

Ajanta has **twenty-nine caves**. It has four chaitya caves datable to the earlier phase, i.e., the second and the first century BCE (Cave Nos. 10 and 9) and the later phase, i.e., the fifth century CE (Cave Nos. 19 and

It has large chaitya viharas and is decorated with sculptures and paintings.

Ajanta is the only surviving example of painting of the first century BCE and the fifth century CE. The caves at Ajanta as well as in western Deccan in general have no precise chronology because of the lack of known dated inscriptions.